

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application in light of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Status of the Claims

Claim 1 is pending. Claim 1 has been amended herein without prejudice. Support for the amendments to claim 1 can be found, *e.g.*, in the Specification at page 6, paragraph [0018] and in Figure 1. New claims 14 to 28 have been added. Support for new claims 14 to 28 can be found, *e.g.*, in original claims 2-13. No new matter has been added.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by EP 0491289 to Dr. Stefan Hell ("Hell").

Independent claim 1 has been amended herein without prejudice to recite "a reflecting device configured to ... reflect the detected light portion coupled out by the optical element that is not directed into the detection beam path back into the interferometer." It is respectfully submitted that Hell fails to teach at least this feature of claim 1. In Hell, beam splitter 4 does not act on any detected light portion coupled out by beam splitter 10. In contrast, beam splitter 10 receives deflected light from beam splitter 4. *See* Hell, Figure 4. As such, it is respectfully submitted that Hell does not teach at least the feature of a reflecting device configured to ... reflect the detected light portion coupled out by the optical element that is not directed into the detection beam path back into the interferometer, as recited in independent claim 1. Because Hell does not teach at least the aforementioned feature of claim 1, it respectfully submitted that Hell can not anticipate claim 1. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is respectfully requested.

New Claims 14 to 28

New claims 14 to 28 ultimately depend from independent claim 1 and therefore include all the features of independent claim 1. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claims 14 to 28 are patentable for at least the reasons set forth above regarding claim 1.

Conclusion

Each and every point raised in the Office Action dated October 19, 2007 has been addressed on the basis of the above amendments and remarks. In view of the foregoing it is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Dated: January 22, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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